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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	<b>Application Number</b>	09/289,000	
	<b>Filing Date</b>	February 25, 1997	
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Blatt, Gerald	
	<b>Group Art Unit</b>	3738	
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	P. Prebilib	
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	16683-1-2

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<b>RECEIVED</b> <b>MAY 08 2001</b> <b>TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<b>Remarks</b>	The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
<b>Firm and Individual name</b>	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP J. Georg Seka Reg No. 24,491
<b>Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	April 30, 2001

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<b>Typed or printed name</b>	Jane Welch		
<b>Signature</b>		<b>Date</b>	April 30, 2001

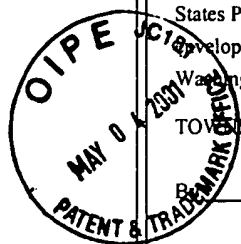
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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 16683-1-2

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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP



*Jane C. Miller*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

GERALD BLATT

Application No. 09/289,000

Filed: February 25, 1997

For: JOINT TREATING METHOD

Examiner: P. Prebilic

Art Unit: 3738

AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

MAY 02 2001

San Francisco, CA 94111 TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700  
April 30, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

As a precautionary measure, applicant requests an extension of time, if needed and if not separately attached hereto, and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fee therefor to our deposit account in accordance with our standing authorization for such charges.

In response to the Office Action dated February 26, 2000, please amend this application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following new claims:

27. (new) A method according to claim 1 including permitting slidable motion between the face and the first joint surface in a lateral direction.

28. (new) A method according to claim 8 including placing the first and second implant surfaces so as to permit relative slidable motion between the first and second faces and the first and second joint surfaces in a lateral direction.

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5/9/01  
Fee OK